REACTIVATION OF SUSPENDED PROGRAMS **November 13, 2000**

Recommendation:

The staff recommends that the Council approve the following:

- That effective June 1, 2001, academic programs suspended for longer than five years be subject to the Council's program approval policies when proposed for reactivation. (Programs suspended in response to the Council's current program productivity review already are subject to the new program approval process and action by the Council before reactivation.)

- That to reactivate suspended programs before June 1, 2001, institutions must submit information about them to the Kentucky Postsecondary Program Proposal System for a 45-day review.

Background:

Council policy allows reactivation of any suspended program after consultation with Council staff. It does not require formal Council approval, regardless of the length of the suspension. Decisions to suspend programs give institutions flexibility to put a program on hold for a variety of reasons and then reactivate the program while the faculty, equipment, and facilities are still in place. But a program that has been suspended for more than five years is unlikely to have essential resources still in place. The program-approval process used today is less burdensome and faster than the previous one. It encourages communication among institutions about the need for a program. To avoid unnecessary duplication, programs suspended for more than five years should be subject to public review before possible reactivation.

The proposed process change was shared with the Chief Academic Officers. Their suggestions were incorporated into the recommendation.

Staff Preparation by Barbara Cook